Railway Awards to the Staff

*317. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some railway awards are given to staff of the Ministry of Railways every year;

(b) whether some awards are also being given every month in the Ministry; and

(c) if so, the description of such awards with criteria fixed in this regard and the gap required to give award to the same person again and again?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Sir.

(c) Staff of the Railway Ministry are being given awards under the following two schemes—

(1) **Railway Board Cash Award:**

This scheme was instituted in 1972. Under this scheme meritorious and deserving employees upto the level of Section Officers are given awards at the Annual Railway Week Function held in April every year. The amount of award is Rs. 500 per employee in the Gazetted cadre and Rs. 400 per employee in the non-gazetted cadre along with merit certificates.

(2) **Monthly Cash Award:**

This scheme was introduced in 1988. Under this scheme awards are given to the outstanding and meritorious staff at the Monthly Functions which are held on the last working day of the month. The amount of award fixed for various categories of staff is as follows:—

Ghoup 'D' staff upto Rs. 200/-
Group 'C' staff upto Rs. 400/-
Group 'B' staff upto Rs. 500/-
Group 'A' staff upto Rs. 1000/-

Normally the same person is not given the award within a period of 2 years. In exceptional cases, some of the staff have been given wards more than once in relaxation of the normal rules.

Decision of the Supreme Court on capitation fees

*318. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a whether the Supreme Court has issued orders to Government in the cases known as caption frees cases directing the concerned authorities to frame rules and regulations for fixing the capitation fees and tuition fees to be charged by the self-financing medical colleges, as per the scheme fromulated by the Supreme Court; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to implement that order during 1993-94 academic year?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The Supreme Court have in their judgement of 4th February. 1993 *inter-alia* directed that the State Governments shall constitute a Committee to fix the ceiling on the fees chargeable by private professional colleges.

(b) Appropriate action is being taken by the State govts. concerned.

Electrification of Railway line between Kharagpur-Khurda

*319. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have appointed study group for assessment for electrification of the railway line between Kharagpur-Khurda; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, the details as to whom the said study has been assigned and by when the report is to be submitted alongwith the extent of study so far made?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Cost-cum feasibility survey for electrification of Kharagpur-Waltair section of which Kharagpur-Khurda Road is a portion, has been sanctioned. The survey has been entrusted to General Manager, Central Organisation for Railway Electrification, Allahabad. Survey work is presently in progress and the same is expected to be completed and report submitted by September '93.

Decreasing number of Rhinos in the Kaziranga National Park in Assam

*320. SHRI BHADRESHWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is gradual decrease of the Rhinos in the Kaziranga National Park in Assam;

(b) whether Government are aware that the officials are in league with the poachers in the regular killngs of Rhinos in Assam; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to prevent such killing and preserve these world famous species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The Rhino population in Kaziranga is reported to have declined from 1250 in 1989 to 1129 in 1991.

(b) No such report has been received from the State Government.

(c) Government continues to take measures to prevent poaching of all scheduled animals, including Rhinos, through increased patrolling of the Park and its surrounding areas, improved system of communication, building up of information network to know of poachers' activities, carrying out raids on suspected centres of trade in poached widlife products and creating a public awareness condusive to conservation of the Rhinos.

"वन क्षेत्र के विनाश को रोकने के लिये योजना"

2647. श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव : क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या औषधीय पौधे तथा अन्य छोटी-छोटी वनोपज देने वाले वन क्षेत्रों, जो तेजी से सिकुड़ते जा रहे हैं, के विनाश को रोकने के लिए राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर कोई योजना बनाई गई है ; यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और वर्ष 1989-90 के दौरान इस कार्य पर राज्यवार, कितनी धनराशि व्यय की गई ;

(ख) इस संबंध में मध्य प्रदेश के छत्तीसगढ़ में की गई कार्यवाही का ब्यौरा क्या है और उसके क्या परिणाम रहे हैं ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि मध्य प्रदेश के आदिवासियों, जो मुख्य रूप से लघु-वनोपजों और औषधीय पौधों से होने वाली आय पर निर्भर करते हैं, और

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या इन औषधीय पौधों तथा लघुवनोपजों के विकास हेतु राज्य सरकार को पर्याप्त वित्तीय और तकनीकी सहायता उपलब्ध कराने के लिए कदम उठाए गये हैं ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ) :(क) भारत सरकार ने औषधीय पौधे और अन्य लघु वन उत्पाद की पैदावार वाले वन क्षेत्र के विनाश को रोकने के लिए तीन स्कीमें बनाई हैं, जो इस प्रकार हैं :—

(1) जैविक हस्तक्षेप से वनों की सुरक्षा के लिए अवसंरचना का विकास।

(2) अवक्रमित वनों के पुनरुद्धार के कार्य में अनुसूचित जनजातियों तथा ग्रामीण निर्धन लोगों को शामिल करना।